

female, as he felt another in his body, and that he had had one before some years back, having got this one in the Argentine.

I put him close under the electric light and saw distinctly the wriggling form of the worm working towards the inner side under the translucent pink of the eyelid. I caught the tail up together with the skin with a pair of "bull-dog" forceps. The worm in its struggles straightened out, enabling me to cut down upon its head, which I seized with another pair of forceps, and, releasing the first pair, wound the worm out completely by twisting the front part round the forceps. Dr. Harford, of Livingstone College, Leyton (where I then lived) confirmed the man's opinion that it was a female *loa*.

I have the worm and should be pleased to let any one skilled in the life-history of these creatures inspect it.—I am, etc.,

HARDING H. TOMKINS, M.R.C.S.

Parkfield, South Ealing Road,
Ealing, W.5, May 25th.

FAMILY HISTORY IN LINGUAL CANCER.

SIR,—I am interested in the subject of cancer of the tongue and am anxious to ascertain whether there is a family predisposition to the disease, such as occurs in some other forms of cancer.

Will any of your readers kindly tell me whether they know, at first hand, of (a) cancer of the tongue occurring in more than one member of the same generation of a family, (b) in successive generations of the same family—that is, father and son, (c) whether in the rarer case of lingual cancer in women the disease has occurred in families with a markedly cancerous history.—I am, etc.,

London, W., May 25th.

D'ARCY POWER.

EXCISION OF WOUNDS AND FLAIL LIMBS.

SIR,—It is time a note of warning was sounded as to the excessive excision of the wounds in compound fractures. Several cases have lately come to this hospital with flail legs and arms from undue removal of bone fragments. Where more than two inches of femur have been excised firm union seems improbable. The end results of these are likely to be less satisfactory than of cases with extensive comminution, some sepsis (controlled by Carrel-Dakin treatment), and sequestrotomy of necrosed fragments at a late period. Doubtless many of the wound excisions prevent dangerous sepsis and save limbs and lives. It is the happy medium for which I plead.—I am, etc.,

A. NEVE, F.R.C.S.E.,

War Hospital, Dartford, May 27th.

Major R.A.M.C.

A MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

SIR,—The scheme of the British Medical Association's pamphlet assumes naturally that the doctor knows that his duty is to cure a patient as soon as possible and to persuade a patient to carry out his instructions. The accusation that the scheme of the Association is humdrum and unimaginative might with greater aptness be applied to Dr. Veale's ideal of state control. As to voluntary hospitals, one would have thought that the results of state control, as seen during the present war, would have sufficed to prove how unsatisfactory it is in its practical working. I for one should be indeed sorry to see our voluntary hospitals handed over to the care of the state. State control could not shorten the waiting list. Your space is precious, otherwise I should have liked to have dealt with Dr. Veale's contentions in detail. Fortunately, we are not all so melancholy as your correspondent.—I am, etc.,

Bedford, May 25th.

S. J. ROSS.

The Services.

TERRITORIAL DECORATION.

THE Territorial Decoration has been conferred upon the following members of the R.A.M.C.(T.): Lieut.-Colonels W. A. Benson, J. P. Bush, C.M.G., W. K. Clayton, T. Frankish, A. M. McIntosh, J. Oldfield; Majors A. Butler, R. Emmett, F. L. Fennell, A. Fowler, C. W. Miller, D.S.O.; Quartermaster and honorary Major J. Dunn; Quartermaster and honorary Captain A. J. H. Knights.

Obituary.

LIEUT.-COLONEL JAMES FORBES BEATTIE, R.A.M.C.(ret.), died at Insh, Aberdeenshire, on March 27th, aged 76. He was educated at King's College, Aberdeen; he graduated M.A. in 1860 and M.D. and C.M. of Aberdeen University in 1863; he entered the army as assistant surgeon on September 30th, 1863, and retired as brigade-surgeon-lieutenant-colonel on May 21st, 1890. He served in the Ashanti war of 1873-74 (medal); in the Afghan war of 1878-80, where he took part in the defence of Kandahar (medal and clasp); and in the Egyptian war of 1882, when he was present at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir (medal and clasp and Khedive's bronze star).

SURGEON-MAJOR EDWARD LOUIS MCSHEEHY, R.A.M.C. (retired), died at Wimbledon on May 1st, aged 84. He was educated at Queen's College, Cork, and at the R.C.S.I. Medical School in Dublin, and took the M.D. of the Queen's University of Ireland in 1856, and the L.R.C.S.I. in the same year, and subsequently the M.Ch. in 1866 and the F.R.C.S.I. in 1867. He entered the army as assistant surgeon on May 27th, 1857, became surgeon on May 27th, 1869, and surgeon-major on March 1st, 1873, retiring on May 28th, 1877. He served in the second China war of 1860, receiving the medal, and was a J.P. for the county of Surrey.

Medical News.

THE Medical Defence Union announces in our advertisement columns this week that an agreement has been entered into with the Yorkshire Insurance Company, whereby for an annual premium of 7s. 6d. an indemnity insurance can be effected for £2,500 against legal costs and damages in adverse actions at law in which the defence has been undertaken by the Union.

AT the annual meeting of the Kent Branch of the British Medical Association, to be held on Wednesday, June 12th, at 3.30 p.m., at the Technical Institute, Tonbridge, the president, Dr. Claude Wilson, will give an address on the significance of cardiac murmurs.

AS a recognition of the long service of Lieut.-Colonel Charles Brook, late R.A.M.C.(T.F.), the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief has been pleased to appoint him honorary consulting surgeon to the 4th Northern General Hospital, Lincoln.

A FAIR in aid of the Elizabeth Garrett-Anderson Memorial will be held at the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women, 8, Hunter Street, W.C.1, on Saturday, June 8th, from noon to 9 p.m.; admission 1s.

THE late Dr. Henry Maudsley left £60,718 net.

DR. W. C. BURNS of Raasay has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for Inverness-shire.

THE Royal Dental Hospital, Leicester Square, has received an additional donation of £100 from the Worshipful Company of Grocers.

DR. AND MRS. HENRY MATURIN of Hartley Wintney, Hants, recently celebrated their golden wedding, and were the recipients of a public presentation.

A DISCUSSION on disinfection in public health work will be opened by Dr. W. G. Savage, M.O.H. Somerset County Council, at a meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute at Taunton on Friday, June 14th, at 11 a.m.

MISS EDITH HELEN BARRETT, O.B.E., M.B., honorary secretary of the Australian Branch of the British Red Cross Society, has been appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

PROFESSOR UHLENHUTH has come to the conclusion that under favourable conditions the *Spirochaeta icterogenes* may multiply in water and other media outside its human host.

THE Council of the Carnegie Foundation, at a meeting recently held in Rome, decided to give £4,000 towards the erection of a sanatorium for tuberculous Italian soldiers.

THE Local Government Board has issued a revised edition of the list of sanatoriums and other residential institutions (H.M. Stationery Office; price 1d.) approved by the Board under the National Insurance Act, 1911, for the treatment of persons suffering from tuberculosis, and resident in England, excluding Monmouthshire.

THE General Officer Commander-in-Chief of the French Forces in Italy mentioned H.R.H. the Duchess Elena d'Aosta (née Princess Hélène Louise Henriette de France) in the Order of the Day, and decorated her with the War Medal in recognition of her work with the Italian Red Cross and the active assistance she has given to medical units of the French army in Italy.